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PENSACOLA BEACH FL 32561

MAILED

JUN 21 2011

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Patent No. 6,966,851 :
Issued: November 22, 2005 :
Application No. 10/781,502 :
Filed: February 18, 2004 :
Attorney Docket No. 240368 :

ON PETITION

This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR 1.378(c), filed May 17, 2011 and May 16, 2011, to accept the delayed payment of a maintenance fee for the above-identified patent.

The petition is **DISMISSED**.

If reconsideration of this decision is desired, a petition for reconsideration under 37 CFR 1.378(e) must be filed within TWO (2) MONTHS from the mail date of this decision. No extension of this two-month time limit can be granted under 37 CFR 1.136(a) or (b). This is **not** a final agency action within the meaning of 5 U.S.C. § 704.

Any petition for reconsideration of this decision must be accompanied by the petition fee of \$400 as set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(f). The petition for reconsideration must include the lacking item(s) noted below, since, after a decision on the petition for reconsideration, no further reconsideration or review of the matter will be undertaken by the Commissioner.

A petition to accept the unintentionally delayed payment of a maintenance fee under 35 U.S.C. § 41(c) and 37 CFR 1.378(c) must be accompanied by: (1) a statement that the delay was unintentional; (2) payment of the appropriate maintenance fee, unless previously submitted; (3) payment of the surcharge set forth in 37 CFR 1.20(i)(2). This petition lacks items (2) and (3) above.

With regards to items (2) and (3), petitioner has failed to submit the required \$490.00 small entity three and a half year maintenance fee and required \$1,640.00 surcharge fee. Therefore, as stated above a \$400.00 petition fee is also required for any petition for reconsideration, bring the total to \$2,530.00.

If this petition is not renewed or if renewed and not granted, then petitioner may request a refund of the maintenance and surcharge fees paid. The fee for requesting reconsideration is not refundable.

Further, the petition must be signed by:

- 1) An attorney or agent of record appointed in compliance with § 1.34(b);
- 2) A registered attorney or agent not of record who acts in a representative capacity under the provisions of § 1.34(a);
- (3) The assignee of record of the entire interest, if there is an assignee of record of the

entire interest;

(4) An assignee of record of an undivided part interest, and any assignee(s) of the remaining interest and any applicant retaining an interest, if there is an assignee of record of an undividing part interest; or

(5) All of the applicants (§§ 1.42.1.43 and 1.47) for patent, unless there is an assignee of record of the entire interest and such assignee has taken action in the application in accordance with §§ 3.71 and 3.73.

The instant petition was signed by only one of the two listed inventors. Petitioner appears to have submitted duplicate petitions signed by only one of the two listed inventors. A renewed petition with the signatures of both inventors is required.

If this petition is not renewed or if renewed and not granted, then petitioner may request a refund of the maintenance and surcharge fees paid. The fee for requesting reconsideration is not refundable.

Further correspondence with respect to this matter should be addressed as follows:

By Mail: Mail Stop PETITIONS
 Commissioner for Patents
 Post Office Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

By hand: U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
 Customer Service Window, Mail Stop Petitions
 Randolph Building
 401 Dulany Street
 Alexandria, VA 22314

The centralized facsimile number is (571) 273-8300.

Telephone inquiries should be directed to the undersigned at (571)-272-7751.

/Joan Olszewski/
Joan Olszewski
Petitions Examiner
Office of Petitions